

**MINUTES
STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
#2 Capitol Square
Atlanta, Georgia 30334**

August 16, 2007

10:00 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mike Evans, Chairman
Garland Pinholster, Vice Chairman
Roy Herrington
Billy Langdale
Robert L. Brown, Jr.
Emory McClinton
Rudy Bowen
Larry Walker
Bill Kuhlke, Jr.
David Doss
Raybon Anderson
Dana Lemon

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sam Wellborn

DOT STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner Harold Linnenkohl
Buddy Gratton, Deputy Commissioner
Elizabeth Osmon
Karlene Barron
Todd Long
Gerald Ross
Sandra Burgess
David Studstill
Michael Cooper

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL:

Eric Kane

Chairman Mike Evans opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Billy Langdale gave the invocation.

Billy Langdale led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Evans asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 2007 meetings. Roy Herrington made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 2007 meetings, seconded by Robert Brown and unanimously approved.*

Todd Long, Director of Preconstruction, requested approval of the projects proposed for the September 2007 Letting. Chairman Evans asked for a motion to approve. Rudy Bowen made a motion to approve the projects proposed for the August 2007 Letting, seconded by Billy Langdale and unanimously approved.*

Gerald Ross, Director of Planning, Data & Intermodal Development, requested approval of the revisions proposed for the Construction Work Program for August 2007. Chairman Evans asked for a motion to approve. Dana Lemon made a motion to approve the revisions proposed for the Construction Work Program for August 2007, seconded by Roy Herrington and unanimously approved.*

Jane Smith, State Transportation Data Administrator, gave an update on the selection of the front cover for the 2008 Georgia State Map. Jane Smith stated that the picture of Lake Lanier in Hall County from Congressional District Nine was selected for the front cover of the 2008 Georgia State Map and the Georgia Aquarium from Congressional District Five was selected for the back cover of the 2008 Georgia State Map. Chairman Evans stated that a 15 year old from Gainesville, who attends North Hall High School submitted the picture of the fisherman at Lake Lanier that was selected for the front cover of the map and she also used it in her class project.

Commissioner Linnenkohl gave his monthly report, which included the state fund collections; total employment figure for July 31, 2007; and major projects open to traffic.*

Commissioner Linnenkohl also requested that the Board approve the following resolution. Dana Lemon made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Raybon Anderson and unanimously approved.

Resolution

Whereas, David E. Studstill Jr. graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree in 1975 and began his career with the Georgia Department of Transportation in 1976; and

Whereas, David Studstill has been a faithful and dedicated employee of the Georgia Department of Transportation for more than 30 years and has served in various capacities within the Department such as Traffic and Safety Design Engineer, Environmental Location Engineer, Director of Operations Division and Director of Planning, Data & Intermodal Development; and

Whereas, as the Chief Engineer, David Studstill is responsible for the development of Georgia's Transportation System which includes overseeing all engineering-related activities within the Department to ensure the effective and efficient planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of transportation systems statewide; and

Whereas, during his tenure, David Studstill was instrumental in leading the Department to record lettings two consecutive years and he played a key role in the implementation of the Department's

Managed Lanes Vision and the completion of the Georgia Highway 400 Widening Project which significantly relieved traffic congestion on that roadway; and

Whereas, through his leadership, Georgia's roads and bridges have continually met the needs of the public and also earned national recognition.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the State Transportation Board recognizes David Studstill for his lifetime contributions to the Department and each member of the Board offers heartfelt best wishes to him for a happy and healthy retirement.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a suitable copy be provided to David Studstill in recognition of his devoted and commendable service to the Department.

Adopted this the 16th day of August, 2007.

Chairman Evans requested that each Committee Chair give a report from their committee meetings.

David Doss gave a report from the Public Private Committee. He stated that Earl Mahfuz gave an update on current Unsolicited PPI Projects and Potential Solicited PPI Projects. He stated there was some discussion regarding the PPI projects and Garland Pinholster made a motion regarding the projects and the motion was unanimously approved by the committee. David Doss also made a motion that in accordance with the Board's established priority of projects, to direct the Commissioner to seek a viable candidate or candidates for a solicited public private initiative the opportunity to develop, design, finance, construct, operate and maintain a comprehensive transportation system in the greater Atlanta area that is designed to significantly reduce traffic congestion, increase safety and improve mobility. The development of such a system would be contingent upon the utilization of innovative financing and toll revenues to recoup the initial investment and a reasonable profit; a revenue sharing arrangement with the Department during the terms of the lease with the system reverting to the Department at the expiration of the lease; and certain stipulations within the lease regarding oversight of construction and maintenance activities and final approval of a toll rate mechanism, seconded by Raybon Anderson and unanimously approved.

Bill Kuhlke gave a report from the Joint Equal Access/Contractors Committee. He stated that Steve Parks, Executive Director of the Georgia Highway Contractors Association, expressed concerns with the DBE's recent graduation program, the personal net worth and possible solutions. He stated that Michael Cooper gave comments on the DBE Program; the graduation of the DBE's and the federal requirements

on personal net worth. There was some discussion to consider presenting a resolution to the Congressional Delegation to adjust the personal net worth in the DBE Program. The committee requested that DOT staff continue to meet with the Highway Contractors Association and the Construction Task Force for solutions to the concerns the contractors and the DBE Program are having with the DBE process.

Bill Kuhlke also gave a report from the Building Committee. He stated that the committee reviewed the proposed plans for the new office at One Georgia Center. He also stated that the committee requested some revisions to the proposed plans and requested that DOT staff make the changes and provide a copy to the committee. He also stated the committee discussed the possibility of the office moving in five to seven years to a multimodal station type design building.

Larry Walker gave a report from the Intermodal Committee. He stated that a motion was made by Emory McClinton and it was unanimously approved to take to the full Board to implement the Atlanta to Lovejoy line and the Atlanta to Tucker line as Phase 1 of the commuter rail service. He also stated that concession financing could be used as an option to pay for operating cost for the rail line. There was some discussion regarding the commuter rail line. Larry Walker made a motion to approve DOT staff to move forward with the implementation of the Atlanta-Lovejoy and the Atlanta-Tucker commuter rail lines and identify funding sources for maintenance and operations, seconded by Dana Lemon and unanimously approved.

Chairman Evans stated that the Transit Planning Board, which he is a member of, is in the process of identifying the best routes for transit and will be presenting their first proposal at the Transit Board September 27, 2007, Board meeting. He also stated their recommendation would support the DOT in their decision with the rail program.

Robert Brown gave a report from the Finance Committee. He stated that Earl Mahfuz, Treasurer, gave a presentation on Finance 103, which included the flow of funds; the budget cycle; bond usage flow and the basic process of how money goes in and out of the Department to other organizations. He also stated the committee will meet next month to continue the Finance series.

Raybon Anderson gave a report from the Port Task Force Committee. He stated that Port Task Force met on August 9, 2007, to review potential funding sources for the ports project. He stated that Earl Mahfuz, Treasurer, gave a presentation on funding the project through the Public Private Initiative. He also stated that the committee agreed that funding the ports project through Public Private would be the best option, because it will accelerate the completion of the project. He also stated they will continue to move forward at the Chairman's discretion. Chairman Evans stated that he talked with the members of the Ports and will have some good news to share at the next meeting.

Under New Business, Chairman Evans stated that Commissioner and staff are working diligently on the recommendations from the Efficiency Study to have a proposal for the Board at the next Board meeting. He also stated the current committees will be used until the layout is received from the Commissioner and staff.

There being no further business, Chairman Evans asked for a motion to adjourn. Raybon Anderson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Billy Langdale and unanimously approved.

Approved:


Mike Evans, Chairman

Respectfully submitted:


Elizabeth Osmon, Board Secretary

***Denotes Documentation in File.**